

CHINESE PIRATES BUSY FROM BONNIE SCOTLAND

PROTEST AGAINST POLICE WORK BY BRITISH WAR VESSELS.

British Determination to Suppress Piracy Stirs Chinese Patriotism. According to recent advices from Hongkong and the foreign colony at Canton, Great Britain has placed herself in the way of trouble in South China by her announced determination to extirpate the Chinese pirates of the West River...

CAPTURE ALL PIRATES

Irrespective of Chinese sensibilities. The war vessels sailed for Canton the following day. The cables have not carried details of the result of the cruise but Hongkong papers of the latest dates indicate that the Chinese of Canton and the neighborhood are not going to remain passive under the usurpation of power by the British. The first note of anger appeared at a mass meeting of the Anti-Opium Association...

TWO FAMILIES WIPE OUT.

Two families were practically exterminated recently at a lonely spot on the steppes, near Novotcherak, Russia, by a band of robbers, who despatched even the household cat and dog. The names of the killed are Bondarenko, his wife, his son Nikita, his fourteen-year-old daughter Xenia, and a young man named Limonenko...

BORAD IT AND SLAY THE CREW.

Then that boat disappears from the register of the Far Eastern trade and her goods are never more seen by the owners. An interesting story of the aftermath of a pirate raid recently appeared in the China coast papers. In Tsun-nin, a Chinese agent for a foreign firm, had lost a big junk laden with rich merchandise in the Canton delta...

NEW BRITISH ACTS, 1908

SOME IMPORTANT LAWS ARE NOW IN FORCE.

Many important Acts passed by the British Parliament have taken effect lately. Chief among these is the small Criminal Appeal Act which gives the convicted felon the right to appeal against his sentence. Another important Act provides for the revocation of patents where it can be shown that they injure the trade and industry of the United Kingdom...

DRIVEN TO SUICIDE.

Some queer things have been responsible for suicides and attempts at suicide in the last few days. Such are some of the libelous measures which are expected to affect British social life deeply for years to come. A German company has just paid a dividend which, if not unprecedented, is certainly very rare in the country...

COMING OFF!

It may occur to people that they have never seen a Chinaman bereft of an arm, leg or other member of his body. The reason for this is that all Orientals maintain a profound objection to surgical operations. Indeed, they much prefer to die rather than to be deprived of a member, because as it is undeniable that they come into the world with two arms, two legs, eight fingers, two thumbs, etc., they must of necessity go out of it with the same number...

NO AMPUTATIONS IN CHINA.

It may occur to people that they have never seen a Chinaman bereft of an arm, leg or other member of his body. The reason for this is that all Orientals maintain a profound objection to surgical operations. Indeed, they much prefer to die rather than to be deprived of a member, because as it is undeniable that they come into the world with two arms, two legs, eight fingers, two thumbs, etc., they must of necessity go out of it with the same number...

CHINESE HOUSES OF MUD IN MERRY OLD ENGLAND

PECCOLIAR FEATURES OF BUILDING IN CELESTIAL KINGDOM.

The manner of building in China is very interesting, says a report from Ysingtai. The Chinese get along with very little and have few desires, especially when it comes to a house to live in. The dwellings are generally primitive and not durable. The Chinese do not understand the building of arches. The most they attempt is a simple arch in bridges or doors, but even here is necessary for them first to erect a mud brick support for the arch, the former being torn away when the latter is completed...

WEDGED APART AT THE BOTTOM.

It is often happens that the outer walls of a house collapse, while the inner ones, which have not been wet, remain standing. The use of mortar is also very faulty. The commonly used mortar consists of finely slaked lime, with no addition whatever of quartz sand, but for economy the lime is often adulterated with very fine river sand. The mason tests the soundness of every brick by hitting it with his knifesided trowel, and like every oriental tradesman, works slowly. Where stones are used they are always fitted into proper place on the outside and are brought to rest in the proper place by having little stones put underneath them...

WHOSE ROOFS ARE STRAW.

The usual house is divided into three equal parts by two beams crossing it horizontally on top of the masonry walls. In the case of houses with straw roofs, a light framework is placed on these beams. To protect the roof from wind it is often weighted down with large stones. In the great plains the farmhouses are made entirely of mud with flat roofs. Because the rains are very disastrous to the walls, they are often strengthened with a layer of tiles or bricks on the outside. The difficulty with this construction is that the inner mud part gives way and collapses when it gets wet, leaving only the thin outer part standing. This usually results in throwing the entire weight of the heavy roof on the light construction, and the whole house collapses. Many of these flat roofed mud houses are destroyed during every rain, and when the rivers overflow the valleys practically every house is ruined...

A SAINT'S ECCENTRICITIES.

The famous fakir, Bawa Meni Sahib (the Silent Saint), during his long fifty years' sojourn at Mirpur never uttered a single word which could be understood by any one around him. What wondrous tongue he spoke no man knows, says the Calcutta Statesman. Every day hundreds of pious people men and women, flocked around him to pay homage and adoration. Since his boyhood, it is said, he had lived stark naked, resolutely disdaining even a loin cloth. He abode in a public lane which was always full of busy people, yet he moved as he listed 'in his sterner mood, neither ashamed nor causing shame. His age was well over a hundred years. The Saint never touched gifts; indeed he meekly spurned them. A devout Sikh priest looked tenderly after him and gave him morsels of food with his own hands. For days, however, he would refuse to partake of food. The corpse, after being taken around the city, followed by horses and palanquins fitly caparisoned for so grand a burden, was buried. The connoisseur of mourning people who followed the solemn procession mustered quite 200,000 strong...

PASSION FOR PIGTAILS.

Man Arrested for Cutting Off Hair of School Girls. A man named Beaudet was recently arrested in Paris for cutting off the hair of school girls. Two detectives were watching him in one of the large shops, as they believed him to be a pickpocket, saw him cut off the hair of a girl of 12. When they searched his room they found ninety-seven pigtails of different lengths and colors, tied up with pink, blue and green ribbons. Beaudet declares that he has an unconquerable passion for pigtails, of which he has a large store hidden away. He will not disclose their hiding place, but he declares that he has cut off hundreds in his time, and that he has never sold a single one.

NEWS BY MAIL ABOUT JOHN BULL AND HIS PEOPLE.

Occurrences in the Land That Reigns Supreme in the Commercial World. Farthing breakfasts have been started in Exeter for the children of the poorer classes. Sir John Strachey, one of the most eminent of Indian pro-consuls, is dead in his 85th year. The sum of fully \$4,000,000 is spent every year in the lighting and buying the coasts of the United Kingdom. General Viscount Kitchener has been appointed a Knight of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, in England. The death has occurred at Hove of Mr. Jas. Brady, who invented many improvements in agricultural machinery. When the herring fishing season is its height something like 5,000 miles of nets are set nightly in the North Sea. A silver medal was presented at Grimsby to Susan Gray, who has never been idle or absent from school for ten years. Lord Carrington has offered a site at High Wycombe for the establishment of a market gardening colony for consumptive convalescents. Among the inmates of St. John's Workhouse, Highgate, is an old man named Robert Thomas, who is still hale and hearty at the age of 101. Lord Callhouse has given 20 acres of land to Birmingham University to be used as a private recreation ground. The gift is valued at \$200,000. A Birmingham firm has offered to raise a complete heavy battery of artillery, manned entirely by its employes, for service with the Territorial Army. The Royal Mint, as now constituted, may be said to date from 1317, and the buildings from 1810, the latter having been completed in that year at a cost of £250,000. The Duke of Portland's extensive estates comprise 100,000 acres in Wiltshire, 17,000 in Ayrshire, 12,000 in Northumberland, 10,000 in Nottinghamshire and 5,000 in the Midlands. Sir Thomas Lipton has a summer-house in his garden, built right up in a tree, with two staircases leading to it, one for his servants, and one for Sir Thomas and his friends. In order to teach a lesson in punctuality to a bride and bridegroom who arrived late at St. Just's Church, Penzance, for their wedding, postponed the ceremony for four hours. Mr. John Thomas, the conductor of the Llanelly Coed, who recently sang before the King and Queen and the Kaiser and Kaiserin at Windsor Castle, received a diamond scarf-pin from King Edward. In the United Kingdom 46 per 100,000 inhabitants are in prison. This average compares favorably with other countries. In the United States 100 per 100,000 are in prison on any given day. In Italy and in Cape Colony 310. Sir Lepel Griffin, speaking at a meeting of the East India Association, said that education in England was medieval. The sciences taught nothing but cricket and football, and Latin and Greek very badly. At a naval court martial at Chatham recently, Edwin Fenwick, boatswain of H.M.S. Major, who was charged with stealing upwards of 200 bronzes from the ship, was sentenced to be dismissed from the service with disgrace. From several deep wells at Forthampton village, near Tewkesbury, there has been an outbreak of air so violent as to cause a loud hissing noise resembling an engine blowing off steam. The draught was strong enough to press heavily against a hand held three feet above the well top.